

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are canceled and replaced by new claims 20-39. Applicant specifically states that these claims 1-19 are not canceled for avoiding the prior art or any other purpose related to patentability but, rather, to adapt the description of the claimed invention to more recent trends in the art.

It is also noted that Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 2-7 have been allowed, but cancellation of these claims render this allowance a moot point.

Claims 1, 8-12, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as anticipated by newly-cited Siemens TdocN4-000868 and claims 13-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over newly-cited Siemens '868, further in view of Applicant's disclosure. Cancellation of these claims renders this rejection moot.

Applicant also concurrently files a Declaration Under 37 CFR §1.131 that the present invention was invented prior to October 16, 2000, the publication date of newly-cited Siemens Tdoc N4-000868, thereby eliminating this reference Tdoc N4-000868 as a prior art reference.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 20-39, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

Serial No. 09/935,675
Docket No. NEC-F105/USA
IDE.006

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date: 01/04/06

*(original version
filed on 12/28/05)*

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